

[25th January 1928]

Reconstruction of the Coleroon bridge at Anaikaranchatram.

* 1486 Q.—Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) when the Coleroon bridge at Anaikaranchatram was washed away by the floods;

(b) why it has not been rebuilt;

(c) what was the extent of the traffic across the bridge for five years before its collapse;

(d) whether the Government and the District Boards of South Arcot and Tanjore have considered the question of rebuilding it; and

(e) what will be the estimated cost of such reconstruction?

A.—(a) to (e) The Government have no information. They have called for it.

Repairs to the Bantwal-Charmady road.

* 1487 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: With reference to the answers to questions No. 308 answered on 27th August 1927, No. 1072 answered on 2nd November 1927 and No. 1116 answered on 4th November 1927, will the hon the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether Government have finally decided to treat the Bantwal-Charmady road in South Kanara as a trunk road;

(b) whether they are prepared to accede to the request of the District Board for a special grant for overhauling the ghat section of that road; and

(c) whether by the term 'is being taken over as a trunk road', it is intended by Government to take it over for overhauling and for annual repairs by the Public Works Department?

A.—(a) The decision lies with the Legislative Council.

(b) The South Kanara District Board has not made any request to Government for a grant for special repairs to the road.

(c) No. If the road is classified as a trunk road, the District Board will be eligible for an annual grant up to a maximum of Rs. 500 per mile towards the efficient maintenance of the road.

Extra expenditure on improvements to the road from Sampaji to Mangalore.

* 1488 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) what extra amount was spent on the improvement and repairs of the roads from Sampaji to Mangalore and from Mangalore to Karkal as a result of His Excellency the Governor's recent visit to South Kanara;

(b) how the extra expenditure was met by the district and local boards; and

(c) whether any special grant was sanctioned by Government, or whether the repairs and improvements of other roads were postponed in order to meet the extra cost on the repairs and improvements on the above-mentioned roads?

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A—(a) to (c) No special grant was sanctioned for the repair of the roads. The Government have no information on the other points referred to in the question. They have called for it.

Proposed Rural Development Fund.

* 1489 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether district boards have so far replied to the letter of the Government asking for their opinion about the proposed Rural Development Fund;

(b) what is the general tenor of the replies so far received; and

(c) whether the Government have come to any decision about the matter?

A.—(a) Replies have been received from the following districts:—

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| (1) Anantapur. | (9) Kurnool. |
| (2) South Arcot. | (10) Malabar. |
| (3) Chingleput. | (11) Nellore. |
| (4) Chittoor. | (12) Nilgiris, the. |
| (5) Coimbatore | (13) Ramnad. |
| (6) Cuddapah. | (14) Salem. |
| (7) West Godavari. | (15) Tinnevely. |
| (8) Guntur. | (16) Vizagapatam. |

(b) The local boards from whom replies have been received are generally in favour of the scheme, but many of them are opposed to the levy of the additional taxation which forms an integral part of it.

(c) No.

Municipal Councils

Appointment of Mr. J. D. Ryan as acting Municipal Engineer of Trichinopoly Municipality.

* 1490 Q.—Mr. C. D. APPAYU CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether Mr. J. D. Ryan was appointed as acting Municipal Engineer of Trichinopoly Municipality by the Municipal Council on 5th September 1927;

(b) how many applications were received for the post;

(c) how many of such applicants were fully qualified;

(d) whether Mr. J. D. Ryan was fully qualified for the post;

(e) if not qualified, what made the Municipal Council, Trichinopoly, appoint him as the Municipal Engineer, Trichinopoly, in preference to others better qualified;

(f) whether it is a fact that Mr. Ryan had applied for the A.M.I.C.E. and A.M.I.M.E., etc., examinations as stated in one of his printed cards; if so, whether he sat for the examinations and with what result;

(g) whether he was ever employed in Madras and if so, what are the reasons for his leaving the job;

(h) whether there were complaints of criminal breach of trust against him; and

(i) whether the Government have any intention of approving the appointment of such a candidate?